

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 03131 281249Z
ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AGRE-00
CEA-01 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01
TRSE-00 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-11 OIC-02 AF-10
ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 /148 W
-----062224 281251Z /46

O 281240Z FEB 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6547
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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USMTN

STR FOR ACTION AND PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: ETRD, MTN, JA
SUBJECT: JAPAN'S NTM OFFERS

REF: GENEVA 02905 AND 02926

1. WE UNDERSTAND TEAM OF JAPANESE OFFICIALS FROM TOKYO WHO WERE IN GENEVA LAST WEEK WILL BE CALLING ON A NUMBER OF ASSISTANT SECRETARIES IN VARIOUS AGENCIES AS WELL AS AT STR THIS WEEK. JAPANESE TEAM INCLUDES IKEDA FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY, KURODA AND NOZAKI FROM MITI, YAMAZAKI FROM MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY, PLUS DEPUTY HEAD OF JAPANESE MTN DEL GENEVA MINISTER UKAWA. SOME DISCUSSION OF JAPAN'S OFFERS IN THE NTM WILL NATURALLY ARISE AT THESE MEETINGS. WE IMAGINE JAPANESE TEAM MAY PROBE FOR U.S. REACTIONS WITH OBJECTIVE OF ASCERTAINING
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WHETHER THE VERY TOUGH LINE WE TOOK OVER HERE IS SHARED THROUGHOUT USG. WE ACCORDINGLY CONSIDER IT VITAL THAT THE JAPANESE TEAM BE LEFT WITH NO MISINTERPRETATION OF U.S. POSITION.

2. BASED ON INTERAGENCY-CLEARED MATERIAL HAND-CARRIED TO GENEVA FOR BILATERAL ON FEB 23, WE SAID JAPAN'S

OFFERS FALL UNACCEPTABLY SHORT WHEN MEASURED AGAINST US-JAPAN COMMITMENT RECORDED IN PARA 6 OF STRAUSS-USHIBA COMMUNIQUE OF JAN 13, NAMELY OUR JOINT OBJECTIVE IN THE MTN TO ACHIEVE:

(A) BASIC EQUITY IN US-JAPAN TRADING RELATIONSHIP;

(B) SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITIES (SECO);

(C) PARITY IN OPENNESS OF BOTH MARKETS; AND

(D) COMPARABLE AVERAGE LEVELS OF BOUND TARIFFS.

3. WE DESCRIBED JAPAN'S OFFERS AS DEFICIENT ACROSS-THE-BOARD, CITING INTER ALIA:

(A) JAPAN'S NON-AGRICULTURAL TARIFF OFFERS WOULD ONLY REDUCE THE PRESENT 7.5 PERCENT AVERAGE LEVEL FACED BY U.S. EXPORTERS TO 6 PERCENT, IN CONTRAST WITH U.S. OFFER TO REDUCE THE CORRESPONDING U.S. BARRIER FROM 6 PERCENT TO 3.2 PERCENT; JAPAN HAS OFFERED NEWLY DUTY-FREE ITEMS CONSTITUTING ABOUT ONE-TENTH OF 1 PERCENT OF JAPAN'S IMPORTS FROM U.S. IN CONTRAST TO U.S. OFFER OF NEWLY DUTY-FREE ITEMS ACCOUNTING FOR NEARLY 40 PERCENT OF U.S. IMPORTS FROM JAPAN.

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(B) JAPAN'S AGRICULTURAL OFFERS COVER ONLY ABOUT 20 PERCENT OF THE TRADE VALUE OF U.S. REQUESTS WITH MANY OFFERED CUTS OF ONLY MINOR IMPORTANCE; JAPAN'S AGRICULTURAL NON-TARIFF MEASURE OFFERS ARE SIMILARLY INADEQUATE.

(C) ON NON-AGRICULTURAL NON-TARIFF MEASURES, JAPAN'S OFFER CONTAINS NO OFFER AT ALL ON 15 OUT OF 18 PRODUCT-SPECIFIC U.S. REQUESTS AND JAPAN HAS RESPONDED ONLY IN PART TO TWO OF OUR FOUR GENERAL NTM REQUESTS.

4. FULL TEXT OF U.S. STATEMENT AT FEB 23 BILATERAL AND REPORT ON THE MEETING ARE CONTAINED IN REFTELS.

5. REQUEST THIS TELEGRAM BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF ALL SENIOR OFFICIALS OF STATE, COMMERCE, AGRICULTURE, AND TREASURY WITH WHOM THE VISITING JAPANESE TEAM HAVE APPOINTMENTS THIS WEEK. DRAFTED BY CULBERT. MCDONALD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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